

**Long Tom Watershed Council**  
**Steering Committee and Staff Biographies**  
**2009-10**

**Kat Beal, At-Large**

Kat Beal was born in Portland, Oregon long ago. She has worked for a couple of decades for the US Army Corps of Engineers as a park ranger and a wildlife biologist at the Corps' Willamette Valley Projects, which includes Fern Ridge reservoir. She and her husband Jim have two boys; one attends Lane Community College, and the other is a self-employed craftsman who is actually supporting himself.

Kat's work with the Corps has primarily involved management and monitoring of sensitive species and their habitats in the Willamette Valley. She has recently moved her office to Fern Ridge from Lowell, and is happy to be back in the Long Tom. Kat served for several years on the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's Willamette Valley grant review committee, and serves as an advisor to the Long Tom's watershed's technical review committee.

**Peg Boulay, Amazon**

Peg's earliest memories revolve around the outdoors and animals, particularly fishing with her dad and being fascinated by dinosaur skeletons at the Smithsonian Institution. She grew up in Maryland and Florida. She received a M.S. in wildlife ecology from University of Florida, where she studied ecology of white-tailed deer in the Everglades. She moved to Oregon in 1992 and has worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for almost 13 years. She has studied creatures big (bears, elk) and small (bats, frogs) and is currently focused on voluntary conservation of declining species. Her professional interests include collaborative resource management, so she is happy and honored to join the Steering Committee.

Peg lives in Eugene with her partner Bruce and 2 cats. She spends her free time hiking, mushrooming, camping, skiing, gardening, cooking, knitting, and enjoying the company of friends.

**Kim Carson, At-Large**

Kim Carson is the current Regional Education Coordinator for Oregon Trout covering the Mid-Willamette Valley and coordinator for the Corvallis Outdoor School Program. She holds a Masters Degree in Art Education from the University of New Mexico and has served in the capacity of program coordination for non profit organizations for over 10 years. Personal interests include a 50 acre restoration project in partnership with William L. Finley Wildlife Refuge on her property in the Muddy Creek Watershed.

## **Steve Cole, At-Large**

Steve Cole is a native Oregonian and consulting forester for woodland and forestland owners in the watershed and region. Steve is interested in promoting practical and sustainable land stewardship; maintaining, improving and protecting water quality; and controlling invasive plant and animal species through education and eradication efforts. Steve graduated from OSU with a degree in forest management, and worked as an industrial forester for the Woolley family in Drain and later for the Giustina family in Eugene. He has been a consulting forester since 1992. Steve lives in Eugene; he has 3 grown daughters and a 15 year old son.

## **Jason Hunton, Lower Long Tom**

Jason Hunton was raised in Junction City. After over a decade away, Jason has recently married and returned home to manage his family's farm. Jason is interested in wetlands restoration, native species, fishing, wildlife photography, riparian areas and land banks. He is knowledgeable about agricultural needs and perspectives and looks forward to contributing to the Council's work.

## **Carl Harrison, Upper Long Tom**

Carl was born and raised in Hermiston, Oregon. Went to college at University of Idaho where he earned his B.S. in Forest Products Engineering. Upon graduation he worked for the Nez Pierce Indian tribe in Lapwai, Idaho as a Forester, and then in 1989 went to work for McFarland Cascade in Eugene where he currently works as the Resource Manager.

Carl married his wife Debbie in 1997 and they are raising their two children along the Long Tom River in the Elmira area. Carl enjoys hunting, fishing and camping with family and friends. He is currently a member of the local volunteer fire department, member of the Society of American Foresters, former board member of Lane Small Woodlands Association (8 years), and can often be found helping coach his kids on the TSP fields.

## **Ric Ingham, Upper Long Tom**

Ric has been Veneta's City Administrator since February 2004. He spent the prior 12 years in central and eastern Oregon assisting rural communities with their economic development efforts. He is a graduate of Oregon State University with a degree in economics and business administration.

This is Ric's second stint as board member of a watershed council. Beginning in 2000 and until his arrival in Veneta he was a board member for the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and the organization's treasurer the last two years of his term. He has served on the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's grant review committee and staffed the Central Oregon Resource Advisory Committee from the fall of 2001 through 2003.

### **Patti Little, Upper Long Tom**

Patti lives with her family on a small farm and woodland property in Poodle Creek. She works at Lane Council of Governments in Senior and Disabled Services and has several areas of specialized interest and research in the field. She has degrees in Sociology and Anthropology, further education in Public Administration, and professional training in Farm Management and Real Estate. Patti participated in sub-watershed problem-solving with the Council on Poodle Creek in 2003, completed a restoration project, and is interested in learning and doing more about fish passage, well-water and stream quality.

### **Jim Pendergrass, Lower Long Tom**

Jim was born in Portland, and has lived in Oregon almost his entire life. Educated at Stanford, he has recently retired from a 33 year career in the banking industry, most recently as President of Wells Fargo's Small Business Banking Group in Oregon. He and his wife Chris, a ceramic sculptor, have been married for 33 years, and spent 20 years in eastern Oregon before moving to the valley ten years ago. They live on a small farm in the Bear Creek sub-watershed outside of Cheshire, where they raise sheep and trees. Both are long-time private pilots, and are also active scuba divers, skiers and hikers. And Jim plays ice hockey in the adult league in Eugene!

### **Rich Reeves, At-Large**

Rich was born and raised in Olympia, WA. He attended Centralia College and the University of Washington, studying forestry and forest engineering. In 1985 he moved to SE Alaska, where he worked for the USFS laying out and designing harvest units & road systems, as well administering and supervising various road construction, bridge, and culvert installation projects. He was hired by Rosboro in 1996 as a forest engineer and moved to the Springfield area. My current duties include layout/design of harvest units and roads, and construction supervision.

Rich married Tracy in 1989, and have three daughters, ages 7, 12, 14. They keep them very busy with competitive gymnastics, girl scouts and geocaching. Our family also includes a 3 year old yellow lab that participates in most of the things we do. Rich tries to relax hunting or fishing but also enjoy being in the outdoors with my family. He currently holds the position of President, on the Board of Directors for the National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics Parent Club, and has been a board member for the past 5 years.

## **Deborah Saunders-Evans**

Deborah Saunder Evans is a limnologist and long-time resident of the area with experience as a program director, policy analyst, and consultant. Deborah served on the Long Tom Watershed Council's first Interim Steering Committee and provided technical assistance in writing the council's first water quality monitoring grant. Deborah is interested in improving and protecting water resources and habitats, fostering communication between all stakeholders, outreach and education, and long-term organizational stability.

## **Chad Stroda, Lower Long Tom**

Chad Stroda is the 5th generation on the Stroda Brothers Farm in Monroe. After education in agriculture and machinery, Chad worked in California and Hawaii before returning home to work on the family farm. Chad will help bring an agricultural perspective to the Steering Committee.

## **Tony Stroda, Lower Long Tom**

Tony is a Christian man, born and raised in Monroe, Oregon and he lives in the house where his father was born. He and his wife Brenda have been married for 28 years and are dedicated to their two children, who are now grown. Tony runs Stroda Brothers Farm with his two brothers- they grow peppermint, grass seed, vegetable seed and Christmas trees. They are the fourth generation on the same property. Tony has been involved with the watershed councils since its inception.

## **Brad Taylor, Amazon**

Brad was born in Springfield, Oregon in 1971. He has had an interest in water resource issues since a young age and pursued his passion by attending Humboldt State University and graduating with a B.S. in Environmental Resources Engineering with an emphasis in water quality and water treatment. He has put his background to use working for both private consulting and local government since his return to the region (thank you Oregon for letting me back in!) in 1995.

Brad's current daytime job is Water Resource and System Planner for the Eugene Water & Electric Board, while the rest of his time and energy goes into raising two young boys (Finley and Owen) with his wife Clare of 10 years. Spare time is spent protecting and enjoying landscapes and the water that runs across and through them. Professional interests include western water law and collaborative resource management which make this opportunity very exciting to him.

## **Eric Wold, Amazon**

Eric was born in Minnesota, where he spent most of his free time canoeing, hiking, cross-country skiing, or playing sports such as soccer, basketball, and tennis. When it came time to start college, he chose to move to Oregon to be closer to great outdoor activities, and received a B.S. in Biology from Lewis and Clark College. After graduating, Eric worked as an Agroforestry Extension Agent in the Dominican Republic (with the U.S. Peace Corps), then got an M.S. in Biology from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and completed additional graduate work in entomology from Oregon State University. Since then, he has worked as a Wildlife Biologist on the Willamette National Forest, and then has worked for the past 9 year with the City of Eugene, first as a Natural Resources Planner, then as the Wetlands Program Manager, and currently as the Natural Resources Manager for the Parks and Open Space Division.

Eric and his wife, Brinda, live in Eugene and have a son who just started kindergarten. Between all the things he does with his family, he enjoys hiking, bicycling, canoeing, butterfly-watching, bird-watching, and golfing.

## **Long Tom Watershed Council Staff Biographies**

### **Dana Dedrick, Watershed Coordinator/Executive Director**

Dana has been working on watershed issues in Oregon and northern California since 1994. Her degrees are in Natural Resource Planning from Humboldt State University (BS, 1994) and Resource Geography from OSU (MS, 1999). While completing her education she worked as an office manager, assistant city planner, timber-harvest consultant for private firms, soil scientist, and teaching and research fellow. She also has completed continuing training in Non Profit Management at LCC and attended various watershed science and management professional courses at PSU and national conferences.

Dana has worked with the Long Tom Watershed Council since 1998 as a contracted watershed coordinator, and recently began employment as their executive director. She also consults to help others achieve success in collaborative watershed restoration and supports the work of all Councils regionally and statewide, most recently by helping to form the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils in 2004.

Dana's passion for common sense ecological stewardship led her to contribute her time and money to the opening of a "green" building store in Corvallis called Your Green Home. In her private time she reads and hikes with faithful pup Zorra. The mountains and rivers of Oregon are her weekend calling, and extended disappearances there or to a foreign country will only increase with age. Dana lives in Eugene with her family, bikes to work along Amazon Creek, and also enjoys tai chi, ceramics, cross-country and down-hill (must...have...speed) skiing, and sea-kayaking.

### **Cindy Thieman, Restoration and Monitoring Program Director**

Cindy Thieman has been working for the Council since 1998. She has a Masters of Science in Biology and in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon. While at the University, she was a research and teaching fellow in limnology, microbiology, and plant physiology. Her first Council project was the Watershed Assessment, which was completed in January of 2000. She has also designed and implemented the Council's water quality monitoring program. Starting in 2000, she began working with landowners to develop and secure funding for watershed restoration and enhancement projects.

Cindy has lived in Eugene for 14 years and owns a home near upper Amazon Creek that she shares with Nova dog, Porter kitty, and her partner Jim. They spend more time than they'd like "improving" the house and yard, but still manage to find time for backpacking, backcountry skiing, and mountain biking.

## **Jed Kaul, Restoration Technician**

Jed has a Bachelor's Degree in Fisheries & Wildlife Science from Oregon State University. Classes he attended there covered a range of topics from stream ecology to natural resource philosophy. His professional experience includes 5 years of seasonal work for the Central Coast Ranger District of the US Forest Service based in Florence. His duties there included a variety of fisheries and ecological restoration activities focusing on LWD placement and riparian planting projects. Since graduating in 2005 he has worked for a small contractor in Florence performing stream surveys and assorted restoration projects.

Jed has been interested in any and all outdoor activities since childhood and spends his free time exploring the diverse ecosystems of western Oregon. Fishing (preferably for Steelhead) has been his main hobby for 15 years but hiking, camping, and mushroom picking are also of great interest to him. Helping maintain his parents' farm in the Smith River watershed near Reedsport occupies many summer weekends additionally.

## **Amanda Wilson, Fiscal Manager**

Amanda joined the Council staff in 2008 to keep the fiscal and administrative aspects of the Council's work humming. Amanda also works with the McKenzie and Coast Fork Watershed Councils in fiscal and education duties and loves coordinating events. She is attending Lane Community College and transferring to OSU to pursue a degree in natural resources while she continues to work with the local watershed councils that inspire her. A native of Oregon, Amanda lives in the Amazon Creek basin with her family.

## **Rob Hoshaw, Operations Manager**

Rob joined LTWC in February, 2010 to help the Council improve their organizational systems, support programs from an operations standpoint, and increase program-related communication. Rob has always enjoyed the outdoors and wildlife, and many of his fondest memories are of fishing Minnesota's lakes and exploring the beautiful Northwoods. This childhood fascination with nature became a passion for conservation, resource management, and understanding environmental issues. He has a B.S. in zoology – fisheries and wildlife and a B.A. in English from North Dakota State University. In 2007, he moved to Eugene and completed his master's degree in environmental studies from the University of Oregon.

Rob lives with his wife, Katey, and Scout, their golden retriever. He also enjoys hiking, taking long walks, cooking, painting, and writing stories.

## **Josh Harrison, Stewardship Technician**

Josh joined the team in January, 2010. He has a Bachelor's Degree in environmental science with minors in biology and mathematics. During his undergraduate education Josh performed research on how deer population levels affect the succession of hardwood-dominated forests. Since he graduated he has worked as an environmental consultant, a backpacking guide, and most recently here in the Willamette Valley monitoring rare plants and ecosystems.

Josh is obsessed with wilderness activities, particularly climbing mountains. Other hobbies include music, photography, and learning about the natural world.